CAIN
Against
ABEL,
Representing
NEW-ENGLAND'S
Church-Hirarchy,
In Opposition to Her
CHRISTIAN
Protestant Dissenters.

By George Fox.

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CAIN

Against

ABEL,

Represented in

New-England's

Church-History,

In Opposition to the

CHRISTIAN

Protestant Difference.

THE PREFACE TO THE New-England Professors,

That HANGED the Servants of the Lord for RELIGION.

And all others that are found in their Steps, Persecuting, Imprisoning, Hating and Killing their Brethren about *Religion*, as *CAIN* did *ABEL* his Brother.

Wo be unto them, for they have gone in the way of Cain, *and ran greedily after the Error of* Balaam *for Reward, &c.* Jude *the* 11*th Verse.*

Christ saith, *I am the way, the Truth and the Life; & no man cometh to the Father but by me,* John 14.6.

So here are the two Wayes, one to *Happiness*, and the other to *Misery*.

SInce you high *Professors of* New-England (*who fled out of* England *for* Religion) *have Martyred and*

Put to Death the Servants of the Lord about Religion in your Country, and that your Earth has opened her Mouth, and received the Blood of those Righteous Abels; *has your Earth yielded its Increase? or the Fruit Trees brought forth their Seed? And do you think that their Blood has not cryed for Vengeance to the Lord? And if so, then what do you think that the Lord will recompence you withal? And did ever Christ or his Apostles after him, make a Law either to Imprison or Spoil the Goods of any, or put to Death any for Religion? Now you do say,* The Scripture is your Rule; *therefore let us see Scripture for these your Practices.* Oh, that ever Men should flee for fear of Persecution, and then themselves be the greatest Persecutors! *Or did ever Christ or the Apostles make a Law, that it should be* Five Shillings *a day Penalty upon any that would not hear Christ and his Apostles? If you say, Yea, then let us see their Proof you have in Scripture for it, or else never profess the Scripture to be your Rule for these things: Have you not trodden the Command of Christ under foot, which sayes,* Love one another, and Love Enemies, and Entertain Strangers? *And has not God Almighty brought great Judgments upon your Government and Priests and People since you have drunken the Blood of his Faithful Servants? And now in this the Day of your Calamity consider this,* Behold the Judge standeth before the Door, *Jam.* 5. 9. *What Door is this? and what Judge is this? Whether is this the outward House-Door, or the Door of the Heart, think you?*

G. F.

CAIN

Cain against Abel &c.

THE Lord said unto *Cain, why art thou wrath, and why is thy Countenance fallen? If thou dost well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou dost not well, Sin lies at thy Door, and unto thee shall be his Desire: and thou shalt rule over him, &c.*

Doing well shuts Sin out of the Door; so it is not saying well, or saying Words that be true; but Doing well shutteth Sin out of the Door, and Doing ill letteth Sin in at the Door; but *Cain* did not well, and so Sin entered in at the Door of his Heart and mind, and then he killed his righteous Brother about his Religion: And in like manner, pretended Christians now, where Sin is got into their Hearts (and they plead for Sin in them as long as they live) are found in the like Practice of killing their righteous Brother: So then, persecuting Christians may stop their mouthes for finding Fault with *Cain* their elder Brother, that killed his Brother about Religion. For Christian, what hast thou done? Hast thou done well in persecuting and beating thy Brother about Religion? And art not thou become a Vagabond, and a Fugitive in the Earth? And

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art not thou become a *Cain* and art risen up in his stead, and hast killed *Abel* for his Religion, contrary to God's Command, who would have had thee do well, and contrary to Christ's Command, that you should *love One another* that were *Christians*, yea further, *love Enemies*, that were no *Christians*: For Christ had in the Love of God dyed for all; and Christians should have the Mind of Christ, to love all that Christ dyed for.

Now all ye that profess your selves Christians, of all Sects in *New-England*, and all *Christendom*; consider and see, if you be not like *Cain*, and not like *Abel*, and the Birth of the Flesh, that persecutes him that is born of the Spirit, and in a worse State then *Cain*; for *Cain* had, or made no Law for a Cover to persecute his Brother by; but now you have done it by a Law of your own making (not God's nor Christ's making.)

Now the Lord said unto *Cain*, *why art thou wrath, and why is thy Countenance fallen?* So you may see there was Wrath in *Cain*, and his Countenance was fallen, before he persecuted and murdered his Brother about Religion: And so is there not a Wrath in all you Persecutors before you do persecute, imprison or murder for Religion? His and your Countenance falls from the Good which is of God: But if ye, or *Cain* did well, you would have been accepted of God; there is a Promise of God to you, as was unto *Cain*, before he or you do persecute or murder about Religion; but *if thou dost not well*, saith God to *Cain*, *Sin lies at thy Door*: And what Door was this think you? Was it the Door of his House

or Tent, or the Door of his Heart, Mind and Spirit, and Sin's Diſire was towards him; but if *Cain* did well, he ſhould rule over the Sin, and he ſhould be accepted, & this was before that he had murdered his Brother, that God ſpoke thoſe Words to him. Now after *Cain*'s Countenance was fallen from Truth and Righteouſneſs, and his Brother *Abel* ſtood up in it; then was *Cain* wrath, & then Sin got into his Houſe, his Mind and Heart, and then it came to rule over *Cain*, and not *Cain* to rule over it, and then *Cain* did not well but evil, when he killed his Brother about his Religion.

So now conſider all ye Profeſſors in *New-England*, and *Chriſtendom*, is not Sin got into your Houſe, and do not you plead for it as long as you live, in your *wrath*, with a *fallen Countenance*, grumbling againſt your Brethren, before you murder them; and ſo when the Good is fallen in your ſelves, then you turn againſt it (*Cain* like) againſt your Brethren in whom Truth ſtands, and they in it, and that do well. Now when *Cain* had killed his Brother, the Lord askt him where his Brother was, and he ſaid, *I know not, am I my Brother's Keeper?* Here the Murderer pretends, he cannot tell what he hath done with him that he hath murdered; ſo here is adding Sin unto Sin, and Lying unto Murder. But conſider all ye that profeſs your ſelves *Chriſtians*, God did not charge *Cain* with Sin getting into his Houſe, before he perſecuted and murdered his Brother, but ſaid, it lay at his Door: And now you that are not come ſo far, as to hear God's Voice as *Cain* did, but plead for Sin in you as long as you live; Sin is got in-

into the Door of your Hearts, Minds and Spirits.

Now Christ Jesus *stands at the Door and knocks*, *Rev. 3.* and saith, *if any Man will open, he will come in and sup with him, &c.* And therefore consider, does not Christ stand in the Sin's Place, at the Doors of your Minds and Hearts, and Sin is gotten in at the Door of your Hearts and Minds, and there the strong Man of Sin keeps the House, and you plead for him Term of Life, that he must have a Freehold there, and yet Christ stands at the Door of your Minds and Hearts, and knocks, the Lamb of God, that comes to take away Sin; and there the heavenly man may knock; for do not you tell him, you must have Sin as long as you live in your House, and within your Door; and let him knock by his Power and Spirit, that comes to take it away, and to make an End of Sin, and to bring into your house everlasting Righteousness; he who was manifest in the Flesh, came to condemn that Sin that is got into the Flesh, and with his Blood to cleanse thee from all Sin, and to give thee that Faith, which will give thee Victory over thy Sin; and yet thou wilt neither receive it nor believe it; but plead for Sin within thy House, as long as thou livest; and Christ Jesus that knocks at thy Door, tells thee, he hath perfected forever all them that are sanctified, by the One Offering, who dyed for your Sins, signifying, they were imperfect, before Christ had sanctified and perfected them. So Sin is in all your Houses and within your Doors, that plead for it as long as you live, and so Sin's Work you do, and not Christ's, and over it you do not rule, but persecute them

them that have Rule over it, that are of the Faith of *Abel*, who has opened the Door of their Hearts, to let Christ in to rule in their Hearts, by whom they rule over Sin; and by the Faith which Christ is the Author of, and hath wrought in their Hearts, they obtain Victory over sin; and their Countenance does not fall, neither be they in the Wrath against the Righteous. But in all your Doors into whom sin is gotten within your Hearts, Minds and Spirits, he makes you to rage against them that have rule over him, that he cannot get within the Doors and Houses of their minds, hearts and spirits, and such he rages against, some he persecutes with the Tongue, some in Body and Estate, and some to Life it self: *But the Righteous Blood from* Abel *will come upon the Evil, Persecuting and Murdering Generation*, that is the Word of Christ to you all, that will stand.

Now he (to wit. *sin*) rages against every Appearance of God; for he is within your Door: you'l make a Talk of Christ without, but Reprobates won't have him within: He may stand at the Door of the Reprobates, but they won't let him into their Hearts. And you that plead for Sin within your Door as long as you live, Christ he stands at your Door, and knocks, who should rule in your hearts by Faith, which gives the Victory over sin.

Old *Cain*, your great Grandfather, you may see, he heard God's Voice, which you all deny, and say, *There is no hearing God's Voice now adays*; and so are more dark then *Cain*, so he was beyond you in that; for he talkt with God, and God with him, as you may see in Gen. 4.

And are not all those in the Wrath, and their Countenance fallen, whom God hath no Respect to their Sacrifice, yea, all that be out of *Abel*'s Faith?

Now the Lord askt *Cain*, *Why he was Wrath, and why his Countenance was fallen?* saying, *If thou dost well, shalt thou not be accepted, &c?*

So you may see, here was a Promise of God unto *Cain*, if he did well; and this was before he had killed his Brother about Religion (as before): So it is not a Talking well, but Practising and doing well that God accepts; for as yet he had not murdered his Brother about Religion, though he was Wrath, and his Countenance fell: *And if thou dost not well, sin lieth at thy Door, &c.*

So all you that do not well, though you may talk well, are you not in *Cain*'s Way, and sin lieth at your Door? But all you that plead for sin in you, it is a worse state then *Cain* before sin got into him: Now the Lord said unto *Cain*, *Unto thee shall be his desire* (to wit, Sin) *and thou shalt rule over him*, if thou do well. So, if you do well, ye shall rule over Sin; for you may see, unto *Cain* was Sin's Desire, though he lay at the Door: But you that have let him into your Hearts and Minds, and plead for him as long as you do live, of you he hath got his Desire, and rules over you, and not you over him. So as the Apostle saith, *The Prince of the Power of the Air rules in the Hearts of the Children of Disobedience*: So he is got into their Hearts here, he doth not lie at their Door; for [mark] he rules in the Hearts of the Children of Disobedience.

And *Cain* talkt with *Abel* his Brother, *And it came*

to paſs when they were in the Field, that Cain *roſe up againſt his Brother, and ſlew him, &c.*

So mark, *Cain* talkt with his Brother before he ſlew him about his Religion; and don't you talk with your Brethren about Religion, before you deſtroy them? But what talk was this? let *New-England Profeſſors* and *Boſton Magiſtrates* anſwer it: Was not their Talk like *Cain*'s? And don't you fulfil Chriſt's words, and you and *Cain* think you do God Good Service in Killing your Brethren about Religion: And does not the Apoſtle ſay, *He that hates his Brother is a Man-ſlayer*, in the time of the Goſpel & this is before he has done the outward Act, though it be in the Heart, for ſayes he, *whoſoever hates his Brother, is a Murderer, and ye know that no Murderer hath Eternal Life abiding in him.*

Now, I pray, conſider this all ye Chriſtians, that ſay, *We are in the Goſpel-times*, and yet Hate and Perſecute your Brethren about Religion; are you not Brothers in *Adam*, as *Cain* and *Abel* were? Is not *Cain* the Father of you all? for though you profeſs the Goſpel-times, yet the Goſpel tells you, *He that hates his Brother is a Murderer, and no Murderer* (the Apoſtle tells you) *hath Eternal Life abiding in him*: So it ſeems the *Murderer* abides within all them that hate and perſecute their Brethren about Religion, though they do not the Outward Act of *Murder*, as *Cain* did.

Now, you that do that Outward Act of *Murder*, *Hang*, *Burn*, *Baniſh*, *Whip*, *Cut off Ears*, *Fine*, *Spoil Goods*, *Impriſon* and *Torture to Death* for *Religion*; are

you not like *Cain*, the old *Murderer*, and worsethen they that hate their Brother, which are called *Murderers* in the Gospel Times, that don's do the outward Act? And therefore, how can you plead for Eternal Life abiding in you, that hate your Brethren, and murder them, and plead for a Body of sin and Death to the Grave. Now Christ tells you in the Scriptures, that *he through Death, might destroy him that had the Power of Death*, that is, the Devil, and for this Purpose the Son of God was manifest, to destroy the Works of the Devil; and he was manifest to take away sin, which is a Work of the Devil; for this is the message, which we have heard from the Beginning, that we should love One another, not as *Cain*, who was of that wicked One, and slew his Brother &c. and wherefore slew he him? Because his own Works were evil [mark] because *Cain*'s own Works were evil therefore he persecuted, and slew his Brother about Religion. And can your works be more righteous then his, that do slay your Brethren now about Religion? And *Abel* his Brother's Works were righteous, and so it is the righteous Brethren and the just, that suffer by the unjust, and he that is born of the Flesh, persecutes him that is born of the Spirit. So, *marvail not my Brethren* (saith the Apostle) *if the World hate you; we know, that we have passed from Death to Life, because we love the Bretheren; and he that loveth not, abideth in Death.*

Now the Lord said unto *Cain*, *Where is* Abel *thy Brother?* And he said, *I know not, am I my Brother's Keeper?*

Keeper? Here after *Cain* had killed and murdered his Brother about Religion, he asks whether he was his Keeper; for he thought to have succeeded him in his Inheritance and Possession.

Now what sayes Christ of the great Professors, and murdering persecuting *Jews? Yonder comes the Heir* (when they had killed the Servants, and stoned them) *when he came to look for Fruits let us kill him also* (said they) *and then the Vineyard shall be ours.* And see what Judgment the *Jews* in that case gave upon themselves; that such Vineyard Keepers, that had killed the Servants and the Heir, *should be miserably destroyed, and the Vineyard let forth to other Men:* Now this that Christ spoke in this Parable, was concerning spiritual Fruits, that God had sent his Son and Servants (whom they killed) to look for, and hath not God sent his Servants, and Sons, and Daughters since the Apostles Dayes, to look for spiritual Fruits amongst you, that do profess the Gospel? And have you not (*Cain* like) hated them, and murdered them, manifesting that eternal Life does not abide in you, which is the Fruit the living God looks for, and his Servants; so you may give Judgment upon your selves as the *Jews* did.

And the *Lord God* said unto *Cain* (though he told the Lord he did not know where his Brother *Abel* was) *what hast thou done? The Voice of thy Brother's Blood cryes unto me from the Ground, and now art thou cursed from the Earth, which hath opened her mouth to receive thy Brother's Blood from thy Hand; and when thou tills the Ground, it shall not henceforth yield Seed unto thee, or Strength; a Fugitive and a Vagabond shalt thou be in the Earth, &c.*

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And now consider, all ye that profess the Gospel Times, and are Killers of your Brethren about Religion, do ye think that their Blood doth not cry to the Lord? And do ye think that you are not under the Curse of *Cain*, and that Wo and Misery is upon you? Read *Jude* what he sayes of such in the Gospel-Times; and do ye think that the Ground, that received your Brethrens Blood, will yield its Strength unto you when you till it? And do ye think that ye are not Fugitives and Vagabonds in the Earth, that do murder and kill your Brethren for Religion? You hating your brethren in the Gospel Times, ye are Murderers, not having eternal Life abiding in you; so not Heirs of Grace and Life, and not Heirs of the Gospel, the Power of God, and so not Heirs of Christ and his Kingdom, that stands in *Righteousness, and Peace, and Joy in the holy Ghost, where no unclean Thing can enter.*

So consider you this, and see, are you not Vagabonds and Fugitives from this Inheritance and Kingdom, all you that have murdered and hated your Brethren upon the Account of Religion? And see if Sin be not entered too within the Doors of your Hearts, and there keeps the House, and there you plead for him to be the Term of your Life, to the Grave; and you cannot abide to hear talk of *Faith in the Heart* (which Christ is the Author of) *which gives Victory over Sin in this Life*; & you cannot abide to hear talk of *believing in the Light of Christ, and becoming Children of the Light, and so to be born of God*, and of having *a Witness in your selves, which Belief overcomes the World*, and their God, which blinds the Eyes of

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the *Infidels*; and you cannot endure to hear talk of the *Grace of God to be ſufficient to teach and bring to Salvation*, and this to be within, in the Heart; and you cannot endure to hear talk of the Spirit and Truth to be within, in the Heart of Chriſtians, in which Truth and Spirit they worſhip the Father, the God of Truth, who is a Spirit; for he ſeeks ſpiritual Worſhippers to worſhip him in the Spirit & Truth, and not formal Worſhippers without the Spirit and Truth; and ye cannot endure to hear talk of the Light ſhining in the Heart, *to give the Knowledge of the Glory of God in the Face of Jeſus Chriſt*, and *this heavenly Treaſure in the earthen Veſſels*, and the *Excellency of its Power*, you make a Mock of it, which is of God, and not of us; and you cannot endure to hear talk of God's *writing his Law in the Heart, and putting it in the Mind, this new Covenant, in which God will be their God and they ſhall be his People; that they ſhall not teach every Man his Neighbour, and every Man his Brother ſaying, know the Lord; for all ſhall know me from the leaſt to the greateſt; for I will be merciful to their Unrighteouſneſs, and their Sins and Iniquities I will remember no more.* Now the Lord ſaith, *their Sins and Iniquities he will remember no more*, to his Children of the new Covenant, in whom he hath *written his Law in their Heart, and put it in their mind*; but you will remember Sin, and keep Sin in you, and plead for it and the Body of Death to the Grave, who talk of the new Covenant, but are out of it, and the Apoſtle *John* ſaith in his Goſpel-time, to the Church in his general Epiſtle, *but ye have an Unction from the holy One, and ye know all Things*; and again

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the Anointing, which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any Man teach you, but as the same Anointing teacheth you of all Things, and is true and is no Lye, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

Now can you endure to hear of this Anointing within People to teach them, ye in whom sin is gotten into your House through the Door of your Hearts, and ye do plead for him to the Grave, that ye may not be divorced from him as long as you live, and so have not you proved your selves to be the disobedient Children? and the Prince of the Air rules in your Hearts as long as you live, and not Christ; so he may knock at your Doors as long as you live, but the Prince of the Air shall rule in your Hearts: And did not the Apostle say, *when it pleased the Father to reveal his Son in me*, he preacht him, & therefore what Sort of Preachers are you, which plead for sin in you to the Grave, & Christ not revealed in you, but stands at your Door & knocks? consider this. And doth not the Apostle say, *The Righteousness which is of Faith speaks on this wise; say not in thy Heart, who shall ascend into Heaven to bring Christ down from above, &c. but what saith it, the Word is nigh thee, even in thy Heart and in thy Mouth, and this is the Word of Faith which we preach.* Now ye Professors without Possession, like the *Jews*, can you endure this, or do you know in what wise the Righteousness of Faith speaks, which saith, the word is nigh in peoples hearts & mouthes, to obey it and to do it; and this was the Word of Faith, which the *Apostles* preacht; and have you not been against the preaching of this Word of Faith

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in the Hearts and Mouthes of People, to obey and do it, for if you did do and obey this Word, you would know it like a Hammer, to hammer down the strong Holds of Satan, and the spiritual wickedness in you, and you would know it like a Sword, to cut down your Iniquity, and your Unrighteousness and Ungodliness, and to cut down all your Profession without Possession, and to cut down that persecuting Birth in you, and that Nature, that held the Truth in Unrighteousness; and you would know it like a Fire, to burn up the chaff and corruptions within you, by which *word* you might be *reconciled to God, and be born again of the immortal Seed*, and to feed upon the milk of the Word, and see it, and handle it, and declare it to others, that which was from the beginning, Christ the word, that bruises the Serpent's head, who was before he was, and will be when he is gone: So here will be no more pleading for sin term of Life, but pleading for Christ the endless Life, which is my desire that all may come to.

And Christ saith, *No man knoweth the Son but the Father, neither knoweth any man the Father but the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him.* Mat. 11. 27. Now you Priests, and Teachers, and Professors of *New-England* and elsewhere, that deny *Revelation* in this your Age, Day and Generation, both to your selves and your hearers, you deny that by which you should know the Son, and the Father, for Christ tells you in plain Words, he and his Father are not known but by Revelation. And therefore you that deny *Revelation*, you deny the Way, by which the Father and Son are known, and therefore how can you be Preachers of God and Christ, and know

them not, and deny that *Revelation*, by which you should know them; for Christ saith, *no Man* [mark no Man] *knoweth the Son but the Father, neither knoweth any Man the Father but the Son, and him to whomsoever the Son will reveal him*: So you that pretend to be Preachers of God and Christ in Words, you preach that you do not know, and deny *Revelation*, by *which* he is known, and therefore how can you be the true Christians and Preachers of him that know neither the Father nor the Son, and deny that by which they are known, & persecute them in whom he is revealed, and you that deny the Revelation of God and Christ, which is *that* by which they are known, yet make a Profession of them in Words and of their words what do you differ from the *Jews* or the *Pagans* of your own Country; for the Apostle tells you, who was a Minister of Christ, *even so* (says he) *the Things of God knoweth no Man but the Spirit of God*, and *God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit*: And have not you said over and over, that you have not the same Spirit of God that the Apostles had, and deny *Revelation*? And therefore you cannot know the Things of God; for the Apostle tells you, *no man knows the Things of God but the Spirit of God*, and so, how can you know the Things of God, which are spiritually discerned, and deny your selves and your Hearers of having the same Spirit of God and Revelation, as the Apostles had, seeing the Apostle tells you *no Man knows the Things of God, but the Spirit*, and therefore how can you preach the Things of God, that you do not know; for the Apostle tells you, *They are Foolishness to the natural Man*; so you may stop your mouthes forever from

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preaching the Things of God to others, that have not the Spirit, and Revelation the Apostles had, which you know not your selves; for the Things of God are only known by the same Spirit of God, the Apostle was in and enjoyed.

And therefore have you looke upon them that have come to preach the things of God amongst you as *Foolishness*, and have *hanged* some, and *whipt* and *scourged* others, and *cut the Ears* of others, and *banished*, and *imprisoned*, and *fined*, and *spoiled* the *Goods* of others.

And now, consider this, Would you be so done unto, and served your selves, as you have done to others? Would you have the Law and the Prophets fulfilled upon you, who have walked neither according to the Law, nor Prophets nor Gospel? for your Lives have answered neither.

And do not you know, that after a Dog hath bitten a Man or a Woman, he is Man-keen, after he has tasted of his or her Blood?

And so we see men and women that be in the Dogs Nature, though they may profess all the Scriptures in words, and yet deny the Life and Power and Holy Ghost, that the Holy Men of God were in, that gave them forth, are biting and devouring them that be in the Power of God and Holy Ghost, now as in Ages past.

And were not the holy men of God, that gave forth the Scriptures, beaten and torn with such as were in the Dogs Nature, that were out of that Power and Spirit that the Prophets and Holy men of God were in?

And so is it not manifest, that after such Dogs

or Wolves have tasted of the Blood of the Innocent, and of the Righteous, Godly and Holy Men and Women, then do not such Dogs and Wolves hunt after, and are very keen, and thirsty and hungry for their Blood, and nothing will satisfie them but the Blood of the People of God?

And were not alwayes the Dogs and the Wolves and the Swine the Despisers of the *Power of God* and *Holy Ghost*, that the Prophets and Apostles were in, and the Thirsters after the Blood of such as were in the Power of God and Holy Ghost, as you may see in the dayes of the Prophets, and in the dayes of Christ and the Apostles, and is it not so now?

And consider *Jezabel*, that hunted after the Blood of the Righteous? was not she in the Dogs Nature? and did not Dogs lick her Blood at last and her Husbands also? Read 1 *Kings* 21, 22. chap.

Does not *David* say, who was in the Power and Spirit of God, *For Dogs have compassed me, the Assemblies of the wicked have closed me, they have pierced my Hands and my Feet, &c.*?

And was not this a Propheſie of Christ? And was not he compassed about with Dogs? And did not *David* desire the Lord, to deliver his Soul from the Sword, and his Darling from the Power of the Dog? Read *Psal.* 22.

And further, he sayes, *The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want; and he hath made me lie down in green Pastures, and he leadeth me by the still waters.*

Now, have you not been as Dogs, to worry such as the Lord is their Shepherd, and cannot complain for want, who lie down in God's green Pastures, and he leades them by his still Waters? Have you

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not hunted these, and never have been satisfied till you have drunk their Blood?

And are such (as are called *Dogs*) Members of Christ's Church? surely no. And does not *Isaiah* call the False Idol Shepherds *greedy dumb Dogs, that could never have enough*? And have not your Shepherds fulfilled this Prophecy of *Isaiah*, both in their Greedinesse concerning their Means and Gain, and also concerning their Greedinesse of the Blood of the Righteous? as witnesse your Priests Sermons before they executed the Servants of the Most High God, upon whom God's *Vengeance* from Heaven fell.

And consider the Judgments of God, that *Jeremiah* declared to the persecuting *Jews*, that cast him into the Dungeon, though they did not put him to Death, as you have done, though they were as a Company of Dogs about him.

Thus saith the Lord, &c. Though Moses *and* Samuel *stood before me, yet my Mind could not be towards this People; cast them out of my Sight, let them go forth, &c.*

If they say unto thee, whether shall we go forth? thou shalt say unto them, Thus saith the Lord, Such as are for Death, to Death; and such as are for the Sword, to the Sword; and such as are for the Famine, to the Famine; and such as are for Captivity, to Captivity.

For I will appoint over them four kinds, saith the Lord, the Sword to slay, the Dogs to tear, the Fowls of the Heaven, and the Beasts of the Earth to devour and destroy them.

And it is well if this Scripture does not come to be fulfilled upon you in *Jer.* 15. who have been as Wolves and Dogs upon God's Sheep, *Whipping, Branding,*

Branding with Hot Irons, Hanging, Spoiling Goods, making Widdows and Fatherless, whose Cryes come up before the Lord, and others Mourning for their Children and Relations, whom You Hanged, whom the God of Heaven sent amongst you, to *warn you of the Evil Day to come*, who are the *Professors* without the *Possession* of Christ's Power and Spirit; like the *Jews*, who professed the Law and the Prophets, and yet were like Dogs against the Prophets, upon whom God brought the *Heathen*, *Nebuchadnezzar*, who tore them to pieces; and it is much if the Lord does not bring the *Heathen* upon you also, to Tear you to pieces, and to Hang, and Burn, and Spoil your Goods also.

Indeed, the outward Dogs had more Compassion upon poor *Lazarus*, then great *Dives*.

And the Apostle saith, *Beware of Dogs and Evil-workers, &c. For we are the Circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, and rejoyce in Christ Jesus, and have no Confidence in the Flesh.*

Now consider, who was to beware of these Dogs? and who were these Dogs? let your High Priests expound it; for you dare not say, that you are of the Circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, and have no Confidence in the Flesh: For your Confidence has been in the Flesh; and now see in what stead that Confidence will stand you in, and that corrupt Flesh, when God's Wrath is coming upon you, who in your Words have professed God and Christ, and in your Works denyed him.

And when the Lord did open to *John* the City and the Tree of Life, he saw *without the City were the Dogs*,

Dogs, &c. Now come, read your ſelves, *Prieſts, Magiſtrates* and *Profeſſors*, that have drunk the Blood of the Servants of the Moſt High God, that came amongſt you, to bid you, *come freely to the Water of Life, and take thereof freely.* I know, neither *Prieſt, Magiſtrate* nor *Profeſſor* of you, dare ſay they are within this Holy City; for you do ſay, *You have not the ſame Power and Spirit the Apoſtles had*; and therefore you are not like to ſee this Holy City, nor to taſte of this Water of Life, nor eat of the Tree of Life, without the Spirit which *John* ſaw it withal.

And having ſeen an *Act*, made in 1656. by your *Court of Aſſiſtants*, ſo called, at *Boſton*, wherein its ſaid as followeth:

"*Whereas there is a Curſed Sect of Hereticks, called* "Quakers, *&c. who take upon them to be immediately* "*ſent of God, and infallibly aſſiſted by the Spirit, &c.* "*to ſpeak and write Blaſphemous Opinions, &c.*

Anſwer, Are not you the Blaſphemers, that blaſpheme againſt the Spirit of God? For your Envy has ſo ſtraitned your Spirits, that you have not diſcovered, what blaſphemous Opinions they have ſpoke or writ, nor what is Blaſphemy in this your Act. And are not you the more like to ſpeak, and write and hold forth Blaſphemous Opinions, who ſay, *You have not the ſame Spirit as the Prophets, Chriſt & the Apoſtles had?* And was not Chriſt and the Apoſtles charged as *Blaſphemers* and *Hereticks*, by ſuch Profeſſors of Scriptures as you are, without the Poſſeſſion of the Spirit? But does God's immediate ſending his People, and their ſpeaking by his infal-

 lible

lible Spirit, torment you? Are not many of those *Prophecies* come to pass, which those Servants of the Lord, that you *murdered*, denounced against you?

"*But there is a Curſed Sect of Heeticks* (as you "ſay) *called* Quakers.

Anſw. What Scripture have you for calling them ſo, ſeeing Chriſt and the Apoſtle ſay, *Bleſs, and Curſe not*? It's well if your Curſes do not enter into your own Bowels; for you cannot curſe that which God has bleſt; it touches them not, who in your Scorn you call *Quakers*, who are of the *Royal Prieſthood*, and of the *general Aſſembly, written in Heaven, elect and bleſt in Chriſt*, who bruiſes the Head of your Father, the Murderer, that brought the Curſe upon Man and the Earth.

So we, who tremble at the Word of God, by which all things were made and created, have received that in our Hearts, which was before Sects were; but your Language betrayes you, and ſavours of the *Jews* Spirit, that charged the true profeſſing Chriſtians to be of the Sect of the *Nazarites*.

Now the Foundation of your Law is a Lye, in ſaying, *there is a curſed Sect of Hereticks, called* Quakers, *that have taken upon them to be immediately ſent of God, and infallibly aſſiſted to ſpeak and write Blaſphemous Opinions, &c.* For theſe are nothing but empty words from an empty brain, and a malicious murderous heart; and the Lord will reckon with you for this your Blaſphemy againſt his infallible Spirit, and his immediate Moving of his Servants to come and look for Fruits amongſt you, whom you (that have whored from his Spirit) have drunk their Blood.

And

And you manifeſt the Spirit and Language of your Fore-fathers, the *Jews*, who perſecuted the Apoſtle as an Heretick; but *after that Way which they called Hereſie, he worſhipped the God of his Fathers*; and ſo do the *Quakers*.

And whereas you farther ſay in your Act, "*That "they deſpiſe Government, and the Order of God in "Church and Common-wealth, ſpeaking evil of Digni-"ties, reproaching Magiſtrates and Miniſters, ſeeking "to turn People from the Faith, and gain Proſelytes to "their Pernicious Wayes, &c.*

Anſw. All theſe things are falſe Charges, and a bad Foundation to ground your Murder, Baniſhment and Perſecution of the Servants of God upon; for *Magiſtrates* we own, that rule well, and they are worthy of double Honour: but you ſay, *You are* Chriſtians, *and the Scripture is your Rule*; (if ſo) then ſhew us where did Chriſt and his Apoſtles ſet up a Magiſtracy and a Dignity to Hang and Murder Chriſtians for Matters of Faith and Religion, or Miniſters to encourage and ſtir up the Magiſtrates to Perſecution: let's ſee where this Dignity, Magiſtracy and Miniſtry was ſet up by Chriſt, *who has all Power in Heaven and Earth committed to him.* And where did ever Chriſt and the Apoſtles incourage *Magiſtrates* to ſuch work? and whether theſe your Actions have not been in the lower power, and not in the higher? your Works declare it: For is it not the Higher Power's Command, *To do unto all as you would have them do unto you?* And *Magiſtrates* which are for the Puniſhment of the Evil-doers, and the Praiſe of them that do well, we own; but ſuch as

you, that have abuſed your Power, and puniſh thoſe that do well, and turn your Sword backwards, were admoniſhed by our Friends, and if you will not hear, we leave you to God to deal with you.

And the *Church-order*, which is the Goſpel-order, we are Heirs of, and are in the Poſſeſſion of; and the *Faith* which Chriſt Jeſus is the Author and Finiſher of we contend for, and can joyn with no dead Faith of Mens making; and the Miniſters which Chriſt Jeſus hath ſent freely, and go in his Command, and love one another, and love Enemies, ſuch we own.

But ſuch as will not go without *Judas*'s Bag, and the Magiſtrates Staff & Power, to fill their Bag, which are not able to convince the Gain-ſayers, but cry, help Magiſtrates of *New-England*, as the *Jews* cryed, *help Men of* Iſrael againſt the Apoſtles, who have not the ſpiritual Armour nor ſpiritual Weapons to defend them; now theſe have been a Diſhonour to Chriſt's free Goſpel, and have made it chargeable, and follow neither Chriſt nor the Apoſtles in their Succeſſion, Ordination nor Qualification; all that can but read the Scriptures, may ſee them, and read them.

And that Church which doth perſecute about Religion, and drinks the Blood of the Saints, and decrees and enacts, that none ſhall buy or ſell with them, but who receive their Mark in their Forehead, and joyn with them in Perſecution, with their Mark in their Hand; now according to the Scriptures doth not that Church manifeſt it ſelf to be the Whore, and not the Spouſe of Chriſt, which was *to love one another, and love Enemies*,

For

For you have not natural Affections that deſtroy God's Creatures and Servants about Religion; and therefore you are not like to have divine or natural Affections.

And have not you mingled your Sacrifices with the Blood of the righteous Servants of God, as *Piſate* your elder Brother did? And have not your Hearts and Hands been full of Blood, which you have lifted up? but the blood-thirſty Men God will ſhorten their Dayes; and have not your Hearts and Ears been uncircumciſed, that would not hear ſuch as God ſent unto you?

And in Rev. 6. 9, 10. *I ſaw under the Altar the Souls of them that were ſlain for the word of God, and for the Teſtimony which they held.* Now theſe Souls of theſe Martyrs cryed with a loud Voice, *How long Lord, holy and true, doſt thou not judge and avenge our Blood on them that dwell on the Earth, &c?*

Conſider this you *New-England* Profeſſors, Prieſts and Magiſtrates, and all others that have ſhed the Blood of the Servants of God for the Word of God's ſake, and the Teſtimony of Jeſus.

And you make a great Noiſe of Hereſie and Blaſphemy, but when you came to murder them, had you any other thing to charge againſt them, but that they owned themſelves to be *Quakers?* as much as to ſay, *they trembled at God's Word*; the Word *Quaker* was a Nick-name given to us by Juſtice *Bennet* and Col. *Barton*, a *Preſbyterian* Preacher of *Darbyſhire* in the Year 1650. whom God Almighty has blaſted; and take heed, leſt the Lord God of Heaven doth not blaſt you alſo.

Again you say, in your Act, "*In Consideration of* "*the Premises, and to prevent the like Mischiefs, as* "*by their Means wrought in our native Land, &c.* "*we do hereby enact, that whatsoever Master or Com-* "*mander of any Ship, Bark, Pinnace or any other Vessel,* "*shall henceforth bring into any Harbour within this Ju-* "*risdiction, &c. any known* Quaker, *&c. or any other* "*blasphemous Hereticks, as aforesaid, &c. shall pay, or* "*cause to be paid the Sum of* 100 l. *&c. and for Default* "*of Payment shall be cast into Prison, till Satisfaction* "*be made, &c.*

Answ. Would you be so served your selves? And would you have your Masters and Commanders of Ships or Merchants, into what Port, Country or Nation they come, which be of a contrary Religion then the *New-England* Men be, for them to do so by you, as you do by the People of God called *Quakers*, and the Masters of Ships that bring them in? And if they should do so by you, how can you find Fault?. It is but like your own *New-England* Law; and if they should use your own Terms, and say, It is but a cursed and bloody Sect of Persecutors in *New-England*, that blaspheme against God's immediate sending and infallible Spirit, and so to prevent your *New-England* Men from coming into any other Place or Country with your mediate and fallible Spirit; and this would be but executing your own Law upon you, and so to shut you up in your native Country; for how can they but say, this is but *New-England*'s murdering Law, *in doing to them, as they do unto others.*

But you make a great Noise of the Scriptures, and of Christ, and the Apostles Words, and say, that they

they are your Rule, and therefore you ſhould put in your Law the Law of God, mentioned in the Scriptures, for your Rule, and the Command of God and Chriſt for your Practice, but by that are you judged.

And what Miſchief have you prevented of being wrought in your Land by this your Act? And have you not brought a great deal of Miſchief upon your Land by your ſo doing to them? But why did not you diſcover what Miſchief they wrought in your Land? Or was this the Miſchief they wrought, that they would have had you and your People turned to Chriſt and God, that you and your People might have eſcaped the Wrath of God that is to come upon you, that you might not have fallen into Miſchief.

But you have manifeſted your Spirit to be like the *Jews*, who called *Paul* a peſtilent Fellow, and thoſe *Jews* that envyed Chriſt, and got Guards to watch his Sepulchre, who called Good Evil, and Evil Good, and Light Darkneſs, and Darkneſs Light.

But *the wicked ſhall fall into Miſchief*, as in *Proverbs*, and *they that harden their Hearts ſhall fall into Miſchief*; and hath not your Hardneſs of Heart ſufficiently ſhewed it ſelf; and therefore how can you but expect Miſery and Calamity, and to fall into Miſchief alſo.

And did not you of late baniſh *Solomon Eccles*, and Captain *Nicholas Alexander*, a Juſtice of Peace in *Jamaica*, out of your Country, who came in Love to viſit your Country, and was paſſing towards *Rhode-Iſland*? And have not you been worſe then the *Heathen Romans*? for they permitted *Paul* (though he

was

was brought a Priſoner to *Rome*) to hire an Houſe, and preach in his own hired Houſe the Kingdom of God to all that came to him.

Again you ſay, "*That the Commander of, or Maſter* "*of any ſuch Ships, as aforeſaid, being legally convicted,* "*&c. ſhall give in ſufficient Security, &c. to carry back* "*the Perſons aforeſaid; and upon his Refuſal to be com-* "*mitted to Priſon, or give in ſufficient Security, to the* "*content of the Governour, as aforeſaid.*

Anſw. You have neither Law of God nor Chriſt for this your Practice, nor Law of *England*; and therefore if you ſhould be ſo ſerved your ſelves by all others that are not of your Religion, it is but like *New-England* Perſecutors Law, and you cannot ſay it is *hard meaſure*: And is not this your Practice quite contrary to the Command of God, and Chriſt, and the Apoſtles? that commanded to *entertain Strangers*, and *receive Strangers*: The Biſhops in Old *England* did not ſerve you ſo, when you fled for Religion out of Old *England*.

Again, You farther enact, "*That what* Quakers *ſhall* "*arrive in this Country from forreign Parts, or from any* "*Places adjacent, ſhall be forthwith committed to the houſe* "*of Correction, & at their Entrance to be ſeverely whipt,* "*and to be kept conſtantly at work, and none ſuffered to* "*converſe or ſpeak with them, during the time of their* "*Impriſonment, &c.*

Anſw. Would you like it well to be ſo ſerved your ſelves, into what Country or Nation ſoever you come, that be not of your Religion, to be done unto your ſelves as you do unto others? And have not you deſpiſed the Practice of the Higher Power?

For

For this is your Law, which the Higher Power commands, *To do unto all men as you would have them do unto you.* But were not these Practices of yours the Works of the Persecuting *Jews*, to Whip & Scourge Christ and his Apostles? and like *Pharaoh*, that put the *Jews* to hard Work? and not like unto the true *Christians*, which were to *Love Enemies.*

You may well say, you have not the same Spirit of Christ as the Apostles had, but the Spirit of *Pharaoh* and the *Jews*; and you have fulfilled Christ's Words, who said, *They should Scourge his Followers, and Persecute them from City to City.* So the *Jews* and *Pharaoh* are your Rule, and not the Scriptures of Christ and the Apostles: and here all may see what sort of Weapons you *New-England* Persecutors use, to wit, *Carnal*, not *Spiritual*; the *World's*, and not *Christ's.*

Again, You further order and enact, "*That if* "*any Person shall bring in any* Quakers *Books or Wri-* "*tings, concerning their Deviliſh Opinions, shall pay for* "*every such Book or Writing, being legally proved against* "*them, the Sum of Five Pounds*; *or whosoever shall* "*Disperse or Conceal any such Books or Writings, if they* "*be found in his or her House, &c. shall pay and forfeit* "*Five Pounds, &c.*

Answ. Have you not set up Queen *Mary's* Laws in *Boston* and *New-England* instead of Christ's? For shame never cry against the *Papists*, nor *Pharaoh*, nor the *Jews*, nor the *Turks*: For may not *Christians* nor the *Quakers* have their Liberty to carry any Books or Writings into your Country, but must fall under

these

theſe your monſtrous Laws, which make your Name to ſtink, and the *Heathen* to blaſpheme the Name of *Chriſtianity* by your wilful Cruelty, contrary to the Law of God and Chriſt, and yet would make People believe the Scripture is your Rule, under a Colour and a Cloak.

But all may ſee who have been your Rule, the Father of Lyes, the Murderer; and what Means you have uſed to try Spirits withal.

And as for *Deviliſh Opinions* we abhor: And how can your Opinions be but Deviliſh, who ſay, *You have not the ſame Power and Spirit the Apoſtles had*? And had you acted as men, you would have mentioned in your Law what the Deviliſh Opinions were they held in their Books.

But would you be ſo ſerved your ſelves concerning your own Books and printed Sermons by others, that are not of your Bloody Perſecuting Religion? And would it not be but doing unto you as you have done to others, if you were ſo ſerved by others?

Again, You further enact, "*That if any Perſon in "your Colony ſhall take upon them to Defend the hereti-"cal Opinions of the ſaid* Quakers, *or any of their "Books or Papers, as aforeſaid, being legally proved a-"gainſt them ſhall be fined the firſt time Two Pounds; "and if they perſiſt, the ſecond time ſhall be fined Four "Pounds; and if ſtill they ſhall Defend and Maintain "the ſaid heretical Opinions, as aforeſaid, they ſhall be "committed to the houſe of Correction, till there be con-"venient Paſſage for them to be ſent out of the Land, be-"ing ſentenced by the Court to Baniſhment, &c.*

Anſw.

Answ. These are *New-England* Laws, but were you so served your selves, when you lived in Old *England*? Would you have your Brethren to be so serv'd, that do defend your Books and Principles in other Nations or Countries, by them that are not of your Religion? It is but doing unto you as you do unto others, if you are so served, which is the Law of the Higher Power: And have not you barred your Sect by this your Law from expecting any Liberty in any Country, but in your own? For if you won't give Liberty to others, that are of a contrary Religion to you; How should you expect it your selves from others? For the Law of Christ Commands as before, *Do unto all men as ye would have them do unto you, and this is the Equal Law.*

But did ever Old *England* think, that such a Company as you, that fled for Religion, should be the greatest Persecutors and Murderers for Religion? Is not this enough to bring the very Heathen upon you (who have no Command from God, nor Christ, nor his Apostles) for you call'd *Christians* to practise any such things?

And have you enriched your selves by your Hundred Pound Fines, Five Pound Fines, Four Pound Fines, and Two Pound Fines, and other such like Fines, and other the Spoiling of the Goods of the People of God, which will make you never the richer: For you that can Banish, Whip and Hang them, and take their Goods, it will eat out that which you have: And when you cease Spoiling, do you think you shall not be spoiled? Will not the Lord raise up the Heathen to spoil you? For have

you not been like a Troop of Robbers, spoiling by Consent?

Lastly you enact and order, "*That if any Person* "*soever shall revile the Office or Person of Magistrate* "*or Minister (as is usual with the* Quakers) *such Per-* "*sons shall be severely whipt, or pay the Sum of* 5 l. *&c.*

Answ. This is grounded upon a Lye; for it is not the Practice of the *Quakers* to revile the Persons or Office of neither Minister nor Magistrate.

But to tell your Ministers and Magistrates, that these Actions are contrary to the Command of Christ and the Apostles, is no reviling, no more then the Prophets, Christ and the Apostles were, which reproved the persecuting professing *Jews*, who professed that they did not live in.

And to tell you, that you have no Scripture for your Practice, nor no Command, except from *Papists* or your Father *Bonner*, this is no reviling of you, but when speaking Truth to Priests and Magistrates is called reviling, thus did the *Jews* by Christ and the Apostle, scourge and whip, and called them Movers of Sedition, a pestilent Fellow, and Christ a Blasphemer, like you.

But you have outstript them by the 100 l. & 5 l. Fines, and where did ever Christ and the Apostles give you any Command to scourge, whip, hang, banish, fine and spoil the Goods, or to brand with hot Irons, and cut off Ears, as you have done, you say, the Scripture is your Rule, then make this out by Scripture to all your Neighbour Colonies, and to all *Christendom*, or else forever let your Mouthes be stopt from professing God, and Christ, and the Scripture

ture to be your Rule, who in your Practice thus dishonour him, and deny his Commands, in persecuting, imprisoning, spoiling Goods, whipping, hanging, branding with hot Irons, and cutting Ears of such as Christ has dyed for, and bought with his Blood; how will you answer this before his tribunal Judgment Seat, who is King of Kings and Lord of Lords, the Man Christ Jesus, by whom God will judge the World, according to the Gospel preached to every Creature?

And what a Shame is this for you to fly in Pretence of Religion, and when you are tryed, and the Lord sends his Servants, and his Sons and Daughters such great Journeys, to look what spiritual Fruit is among you, and you hang, banish, burn, whip, fine and imprison them? So would you do unto Christ also, if he had been in your Dayes, and have crucified him as a Deceiver, like your Forefathers, the *Jews*, and *Pilate*, before whom he witnessed a good Confession: But he is risen far above all Principalities, and Powers, and Thrones, and Dominions, and remains in the Heavens till all things be restored; and therefore you nor no Powers can touch him, to crucifie him again. But you may say, you can persecute him in his Members, where he is manifest; what! is the Devil, & *Cain*, & *Herod*, & *Pilate* and the *Jews*, and *Pharaoh*, and *Nebuchadnezzar* turned *Christians* in Name, & persecute the Nature of Christ? is not this the highest Hypocrisie that ever was, to make the Profession of *Christianity* a Cloak for Murder, Envy and Cruelty? For set the Case they had been Tares, you ought to have let them grow to the Harvest; for God will send his Angels to be the Reapers

pers at the End of the World, Christ tells you so. But did not you want a *Gamaliel* amongst you, to have ordered your Courts and your Priests, who said, *Let these men alone, lest you be found Fighters against God, but if it be of Men, it will come to nought*: What, is *Gamaliel*'s Counsel, and Christ's and the Apostles Counsel all thrown away and rejected, and yet the Scripture pretended to be your Rule, both by your Priests and Magistrates; but I shall leave it to all that fear God, to judge who has been your Rule, and whether it be not the Spirit of him that abode not in the Truth, that has been the Murderer of all the righteous *Abels* from the Beginning to this Day, that hath been your Rule. Oh that you might see your selves, and repent, and turn to the Lord, whilst you have time; but I fear, Repentance will be hid from many of your Eyes, who have been the Suckers of the sweet Blood of the Saints.

Therefore dread and fear, lest the Lord does give you Blood to drink, and do unto you as you have done unto others, which is not our Desire, but that you might see your selves, and humble your selves, and repent, and that you would cry out as *Paul* did, and be like him after his Conversion, and not like *Saul*, and shew forth the Nature of *Christianity*, and not to be the Talkers only, but the Walkers also, and not the Sayers only, but the Doers of the Word of God, that your Souls might be saved.

For I feel and see a Blackness and Darkness to be amongst you, and that you are covered over with a Profession, and that the Birth of the Flesh is turned *Christian*, that persecutes with his carnal Weapons, Whips, Goals, Gallows, hot Irons, the Birth that is

born

born of the Spirit, *whose Weapons are ſpiritual, and not carnal, and their Armour ſpiritual, and not carnal, by which they ſtand and defend the Goſpel of Chriſt and his Kingdom, that is not of this World, and the Faith that Chriſt is the Author of, and the Religion that is pure and undefiled, and the Worſhip that is in the Spirit and Truth, that the Devil is out of, and the general Aſſembly written in Heaven, and the Church made up of living Stones, elect of God, which Chriſt, the heavenly Man is the Head of, which is defended by ſpiritual Armour and Weapons.* And did not the Perſecutors in all Ages perſecute the Saints of the moſt high with carnal Weapons? And were not the Apoſtles able Miniſters of the Spirit? And was not their Armour and Weapons ſpiritual? And are not you that uſe your carnal Weapons carnal Profeſſors, Defenders of your carnal Church, with carnal Armour and Weapons, by carnal Men? And how dare you ſay, Chriſt is the Head of ſuch that neither know him nor his ſpiritual Miniſters, Armour nor Weapons? And was it not in all Ages, that the Truth in the Prophets, Chriſt Jeſus and the Apoſtles and primitive *Chriſtians* was perſecuted, killed, crucified, and had their Goods ſpoiled, under the Name of Hereticks, Blaſphemers and Deceivers in all Ages? And were not they the Blaſphemers, and Deceivers, and Schiſmaticks, that did perſecute the Truth and the Profeſſors and Followers of it in all Ages?

Conſider this, and read through the Scriptures, and ſee, in whoſe Steps you walk, whether in the Path of the Holy Men and Women, with their Spiritual Armour and Weapons; or in the Steps of the Carnal Profeſſors and Heathen, with their Car-

nal

nal Weapons, like the *Jews* and *Judas*, with their Swords and Staves.

And therefore take heed that you ſell not the Truth; For have you not ſold this Truth, that ſays, *Freely you have received, freely give*?

And have not you ſold this Truth, that ſayes, *Love one another*, and *Love Enemies*? And have not you ſold this Truth (that Chriſt and the Apoſtle commanded) *Not to Swear*; and likewiſe this Truth, which ſaith, *Do good unto them which hate you, and pray for them that perſecute you and deſpitefully uſe you*? And have not you taken up Hatred, Perſecution and Swearing in the room thereof? Does not the Apoſtle tell you, *That all is nothing, except you have Love*, and *that you are but as tinkling Cymbals & ſounding Braſs*? And do you think that your tinkling Cymbal and ſounding Braſs will carry you to Heaven? oh! no.

The Lords Day is coming upon you, and will find you out, and all the Proud and Wicked ſhall be as Stubble, the Day will burn them up, and neither leave them Root nor Branch: And think not by your Force, and Courts, and Laws to keep God and Chriſt out of the Hearts of his People; for you may as well think to change the Ordinances of the Sun, Moon and Stars, as to go to change the Commands of God and Chriſt, *that his People muſt not obey him*.

And you that have riſen as a Flood, and thought thereby to drown God's Wheat and Seed; but God Almighty hath ſet Bounds to your Sea, and can bring a Flood upon the Backs of you ere you be aware, and ſwallow you up: For *the Day of Chriſt will come ſud-*

denly upon you, as a Thief in the Night, when you are crying Peace *and* Safety, *and blessing your selves in your murderous works, thinking you have done God good Service*; but your service has not been to the living God nor Christ, who commands you to the contrary.

I cannot but grieve and pity, to think how the *Name of God has been blasphemed by you*, who have made a *Profession* of his Name, and yet *dishonoured* him and *denyed* him in your *works*, who have a *name to live*, but are *dead*, who are proved and tryed, and whose Fruits declare *that you are not the Jews in spirit, nor Temples of the living God to dwell in, Vessels of his grace and mercies*; *but Synagogues of Satan, full of Murder, Persecution and Cruelty*: For had you been true *Christians*, as you did profess in words, you would have been glad of the Lambs of Christ, that he sent amongst you, and they might have been loaden with the heavenly Fruits, which you should have born to the great God, who is over all blessed forever. But on the contrary, the fruits of the evil spirit have appeared, *wrath, envy, murder, backbiting* and *devouring*; and therefore take heed *that you be not Consumed in the end.* And is not this Scripture fulfilled upon you, that pretend your selves to be *Christians*, that have been killing and beating your Fellow-Servants; and do you not think that Christ's Judgment will come upon you, that he hath given in that Case, *To be cut asunder, and have your Portion with the Hypocrites?* And do not your Practices fulfil Christ's Saying, *I was sick and in Prison, and ye visited me not*; *and a Stranger, and ye took me not in, but when saw we thee so?* said the Goats, and many of you say in their Nature & Spirit; *Inasmuch* (says Christ) *as you did it not unto those little ones,*

you

you did it not unto me: and therefore, if they went in Everlasting Punishment that did not visit Christ in Prison, what will become of you that do cast him in his Members into Prison, and not only so, but persecute, whip, fine and hang them? And Christ saith, Saul, Saul, *why Persecutest thou me?* I fear you never heard this Voice, but still are kicking against that which pricks you; I wish you did see and feel it, that you might confess and repent of your Blasphemy and Persecution, as *Paul* did.

From him that desires the Good of all men, and their Everlasting Prosperity in the divine Faith and Love in Christ Jesus, who tasted Death for every man, that all men should live to him, and not to themselves; and his glorious Gospel is preacht to every Creature, that every one that receives it, their Conversation should be ordered according to this Glorious Peaceable Gospel, which Power of God was before the Devil was and his power, which has darkned man from Life and Immortality, which the Gospel, the Power of God brings Life and Immortality to light in man, that in the Power of God, the Gospel, they may see over him that has darkened them, and live and walk in the Fellowship of this Gospel.

So with my Love to all that serve the Lord in the Grace and Truth that comes by Jesus, that they may be built upon him, the Foundation and the Rock.

This 20th of the 11th Month, 1675. G. F.

Having

Having seen an Order *from the Court at* Boston, *that is come over to* England, *dated the 3d of* Nov. 1675. *subscribed* Edward Rawson *Secretary; which Order is against the Innocent People of God in Scorn called* QUAKERS, *under Pretence of* Reforming the Provoking Evils, *as you say: which Order begins thus:*

WHereas it may be found amongst us, that mens Thresholds are set up by God's, and man's Posts besides God's Posts, especially in the open Meetings of the Quakers, *whose Damnable Heresies and Abominable Idolatries are hereby promoted, imbraced and practised, to the Scandal of Religion, and Hazard of Souls, & Provocation of Divine Jealousie against this People, &c. For Prevention and Reformation thereof, it is ordered by this Court and the Authority thereof, That every Person found at a* Quakers *Meeting, shall be apprehended* ex officio *by the Constable, and by a Warrant from a Magistrate, &c. shall be committed to the House of Correction, and there to have the Discipline of the House applyed to them, and be kept to work with Bread and Water, &c. or else to pay* 5 l. *in Money, &c. And as touching the Law of* Importation of Quakers, *that it may be more strictly executed, and none transgressing to escape Punishment, &c. it is hereby ordered, That the Penalty of that Law anexed be in no Cause abated to less then Twenty Pounds, &c.*

Answer. Are these *Christian* Weapons to reform the provoking Evils with (if they were such as you say)? Or are they not *Jewish* and *Heathenish*? Or are these your Scandalous Terms and Abusive Names (you cast upon the People of God called *Quakers*) *Christian* or *Antichristian*? Or did ever the Apostles or Christ Jesus use such Weapons or Words, as you do? But what the *Provoking Evils* are, you have not manifested

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But if you call the *Quakers* meeting together (to worship God, and to wait upon God, and to serve God) *provoking Evils*, here all People may see how you are degenerated from that which you did formerly profess: But if you would look back upon your own Actions, you would see it's them that provoke God, and bring his Wrath and Vengeance upon you.

And if *New-England* Magistrates, Priests and Professors have no better Weapons then Whips, Gools, Gallows, House of Correction, and feeding with Bread and Water (and that scant enough) to reform and prevent Evils withal; 'tis manifest they are no true *Christians*, nor have the Spiritual Weapons with which the Apostles and Elders did reform. But had you said, *These your Weapons were to deform people from the Goodness to your Evil, and so to make them Conformable Hypocrites*, then People might have believed you. But shew us by the Scripture, where ever Christ or the Apostles used such Weapons? Let's see the Scripture be your Rule in this. For we read in Scripture, that the *Jews* and *Heathen* did persecute Christ and the Apostles as *Evil-doers* and *Blasphemers*, whereas they were the greatest Evil-doers & Blasphemers themselves. But consider what became of the Persecuting *Jews*, that crucified Christ without the Gates of outward *Jerusalem*, and called Christ a *Blasphemer*? And what became of those *Jews* that imprisoned and persecuted *Jeremiah*? These were the provoking Sins in which you are now found. And what became of *Judas*, that sold his Master, and then got a Company with Swords and Staves (your Weapons), and then got Whips and Scourges to scourge Christ Jesus withal? And were not the *Jews* the Whippers and Scourgers of Christ and the Apostles, who lookt upon themselves to be the highest Profession in the World (like you, without Possession)? And were not they whipt themselves at last, when *Titus* took *Jerusalem*, and laid their City and Habitations desolate, and scattered them over all the World, like a Company of Vagabonds without Possession? And consider what became of *Pharaoh*, that persecuted the Children of *Israel*, and would not let them worship God, and made a Law *to Kill all the Male Children*? Do ye think that he did not look upon the inclosing

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ing of the Children of *Israel* outwardly to be a growing Evil, and so would prevent and reform it: and did not they increase and grow the more? And do not you make your Laws against the Increasing of the *Jews* in Spirit, the true *Christian-Quakers*, to hinder their Growth amongst you? But I muſt tell you, *God will increaſe them the more, ſuch as ſhall and will worſhip God in Spirit and Truth.* And therefore conſider what will be the End of you; for you have grieved the good Spirit of the Lord with your Actions: For *Pharaoh* ſought in his Fury to deſtroy all he was deſtroyed, and his Hoſt; and are not you the ſpiritual *Pharaoh* Hoſt, purſuing the *Jews* in Spirit with your Carnal Weapons, like him and his? But conſider, when your Chariot Wheels begin to go heavy, as his did, leſt the Red Sea flow over you as it did over him: *He that hath an Ear to hear, let him hear.* And conſider what became of *Herod*, that deſtroyed the Young Children in Maliciouſneſs, thinking to have deſtroyed Chriſt, and conſider what became of *Ahab*, that commanded *Micheah* to be *put in Priſon, and be fed with the Bread and Water of Affliction*: And conſider what became of *Ahab*, that ſhed the Blood of the Righteous, whoſe Blood the Dogs lickt; and what became of *Jezabel*, whoſe Fleſh the Dogs eat. And therefore you that delight in & love Blood, Whippings, Scourging, Hanging and feeding with Bread and Water, Baniſhing and Spoiling the People of God's Good; take heed leſt thoſe Judgments come upon you at laſt, as came upon them. And may it not be ſaid of thoſe harmleſs Lambs (called *Quakers*) that live amongſt you, as it was ſaid to the Church in the *Revelations*, *Thou dwelt where Satan's Seat is*; but they are encouraged now (as thoſe were then) *To hold faſt the Name of the Lord, as they have done hitherto, and have not denyed his Name nor his Faith, though you have drunk ſome of their innocent Blood.* And I do believe, that all your Whips, Gallows, Houſe of Correction, Hot Irons, Spoiling their Goods, Fines, Baniſhments, and feeding with Bread and Water, will never force them to *deny the Lord Jeſus Chriſt* (that has bought them) *to be their Teacher and Leader, Prophet & Counſellor, Shepherd, Biſhop and Prieſt, and their Way, Truth and Life*: For the Believers in the Light are become Children of Light, and can ſee over all ſuch bloodthirſty ſpirits, and God has ſealed them with his Spirit of Promiſe, and they can ſet to their ſeal that *God is*

true in all his Promises and his Judgments upon the Wicked. And have not you read of *Antipas*, Christ's faithful Martyr, who was slain where Satan dwelleth? [mark, *Satan*] he hath his Dwelling there, where the Slayers of God's faithful Martyrs dwell: and don't you think that they slew him under Pretence to reform the provoking Evils, and as an Evil-doer, as you in your blind Zeal do God's faithful Martyrs now? And doth not *John* say to the Church, *Fear none of those things*: [mark, *fear them not*] which thou shalt suffer; *behold the Devil shall cast some of you into Prison*, &c. So you may see here, it was the Devil that should cast some of the Saints into Prison, and not Christ, nor his Apostles, nor Followers. *And you shall have Tribulations Ten Dayes*; but *be faithful unto Death, and I will give thee a Crown of Life*, sayes Christ. So here Christ incourages the Saints to *stand against the Devil* and *in the Tribulations*, as you may see in *Rev.* 2. and not to fear the Devil's Imprisoning of them, nor any of those things which they should suffer.

And now, whereas in your Preamble to your Law you say, *That it may be found among st you, that Mens Thresholds are set up by God's Thresholds, and Mans Posts beside God's Posts*, &c. *especially in the open Meetings of the* Quakers, &c.

Answ. Here you would make us believe, that your Posts are God's Posts, and your Thresholds are God's Thresholds. Oh! no; for are not you like unto them that *Ezekiel* spoke of? and therefore take heed, lest God consume you in his Anger, as he did them that *Ezekiel* spoke of: For have you heard the Voice of God, as *Ezekiel* did? or have you the same Power and Spirit to see God's Posts and Thresholds with? But this Power and Spirit you deny the having of, or that any can attain unto it now adayes. But the *Quakers* do witness the same Power and Spirit that *Ezekiel* was in, and so are God's planting and Houshold, and are upon the spiritual Foundation that *Ezekiel* was upon. But hear oh ye *New-England* Magistrates, Priests and Professors, is it not you that have set your *posts & thresholds* by God's as in *Ezek.* 43. for are not many of you to your power seeking to shed Blood, like the *Princes of Israel* there spoken of? *Now Son of Man, wilt thou Judge the Bloody City? Thou shalt* by *Lord God, This City sheddeth Blood in the midst of it, &c.* Oh consider this ye bloody Town of *Boston*, and ye *New-England* Priests and Professors, has not the Blood of the Innocent

been

been shed in the midst of thee? And were not those bloody professing *Jews* such as you *New-England* Men, that would set their Threshholds and Posts by God's Posts and Thresholds? And are not you such as them that followed their own Spirit, and see nothing, and have been the Daubers with untempered Mortar, and Sowers of Pillars under Armholes, and are the Polluters of People for Handfuls of Barley and Pieces of Bread, and setting your Thresholds and Posts by God's, and Deceivers of Souls, and yet never heard God's Voice, like those professing bloody false Prophets nd Persecutors, the *Jews*, as you may read you Predecessors in *Ezek.* 13. And yet do not you lean upon the Lord (like them) and say, *Is not the Lord amongst you, and no Evil can come upon you*; but take heed, lest *your Sion be plowed up like a Field, and your* Jerusalem *be on Heaps, and the Mountain of your House* (your highest Place) *be not like the highest Place of the Forrest, barren and desolate*, Micha 3. But God's People (whom ye in Scorn call *Quakers*) are come to the Mountain of the House of the Lord, and he doth teach them of his Wayes, that they may walk in his Pathes, &c. but these Meetings wherein People are taught of God, this torments you & troubles you. And *your Prophets make the People to err, which bite with their Teeth, and cry Peace, Peace, but they that put not into their Mouthes they prepare War against*; this Scripture you have fulfilled, as you may read in *Micheah*. And because they are full of the Power & Spirit of God, that are taught of God, and declare unto you your Transgressions and your Sins, therefore you are offended at them.

And as for the *damnable Heresies and abominable Idolatries* you cast upon the *Quakers*.

Answ. These are but scandalous Words; for you should have particular'd what damnable Heresies they held, and abominable Idolatries they practised; you should have brought them forth, and named them in your Bloody Laws: But this is like the Spirit of the *Jews*, who called the Master of the House *Belzebub*, and what will such do to his Servants; and if they did so unto the green Tree, what will they do unto the dry? But we can say, the Lord forgive you, if it be his Will, for your Railing and Evil speaking, and can bless when you curse, &c.

And as for your saying, *they imbrace and practice such Things to the*

the Scandal of Religion and hazard of Souls, and provocation of divine Jealousie, &c.

Answ. It is you that have brought a scandal upon the Religion that is pure and undefiled, with your impure and defiled bloody Hands and Actions, and your Religion is vain, who cannot bridle your Tongues from slandering the innocent.

For the pure Religion and undefiled before God the Father is this, to visit the Fatherless and their widows in their Afflictions, and to keep themselves from the Spots of the World. Now have not you scandaliz'd this pure Religion, who profess your selves to be *Christians*, and are a dishonour to it? Have you visited the Fatherless and the Widdows? Nay; have not you hanged and banished some of them? Have you visited the Widdows in their afflictions? Nay; have not you imprisoned, Banisht and whipt some of them? Have you kept your selves from the Spots of the world? Nay; are not you found in the worlds Wayes and Works, Garments and Weapons, Spirit and Nature, lusting to Envy and Murder, Debate and Strife: with your Fists full of wickedness, and your Hands ful of blood? Have not you dishonoured the very Name of *Christianity*, and this pure Religion, let your bloody Laws and practise, your Gallowes, Whips, Brands, Goals, Bridwell, Banishing and spoiling the People of God's goods, speak. And had not you private Meetings in old *England*, before you fled beyond Seas? and did ever the *Bishops* lay such fines upon you, for your Meetings? as you do now, upon the People of God called *Quakers*; much may be written to this, but let your and their Day, time and practice speak. And you mention nothing wherein these people of God called *Quakers* do practice any thing to the scandal of Religion: and therefore I look upon that, to be Scandalous and abusive Words as I said before.

And as for your saying, *they practice and embrace such things &c. to the hazard of Souls &c.*

Answ. This is a false charge as to us, and it is your own condition; for we are come to Christ, the Saviour of our Souls, and our desires are that all may come to Christ the Saviour of their Souls, who destroyes the grand Deceiver of mankind, and Murderer of Souls.

And as for your saying, *to the provocation of divine Jealousie &c.*

Answ. O deceit can you talk of divine Jealousie, & have so often denyd having the same Power and Spirit the Prophets & Apostles had,

if

if you knew what divine Jealousie was; you would Tremble to do and say what you do. But in the day of God's vengeance you will know it, when God Almighty comes to make inquisition for Blood, for the Earth shall not alwayes cover the blood of the Slain Martyrs, which cry to the Lord for Vengeance. And we know the love and favour of God, and what we do it is in obedience to him. But how dare you be so audacious and bold against the command of Christ? for if they were Tares, you ought to let them grow together till the Harvest, which is the end of the World: And how dare you profess the Scriptures to be your rule; and thus are found like Wolves in Sheeps Cloathing, and like those evening Wolves who devour Christ's Sheep in the Night. Take heed of the wrath of the Lamb, lest he come upon you suddenly as a thief in the Night.

And as for your Law, *That every Person found at a Quakers Meeting &c. shall be sent to the House of Correction &c. or pay 5 l. &c. and all Constables that shall neglect their duties &c. shall forfeit 5 l. &c. and that the penalty for Importation of Quakers shall not be shared to less than 20 l. &c.*

Answ. Is this *New England* Magistrates, Priests and Professors Way to redress, prevent and reform the provoking Evils? was there ever such Merchants read of, but in the *Revelations*? and is this your Way to get Money, and enrich your selves by such Fines? do ye think that he that sits in Heaven (who has given you no Law nor Command for such things) does not laugh you to Scorn? and will have you in Derision for such Things? and do ye think that he will not speak unto you in his Wrath, and vex you in his sole Displeasure, and break you with his Rod of Iron, and dash you to Pieces like a Potters Vessel? For did ever the Apostles in the primitive Church and Times use any such Weapons? and are not these your Laws for *Hanging, Banishing, Whipping, Scourging, Fining, Spoiling Goods, burning with hot Irons, cutting off Ears*, and *making to run the Gantelop*, and *banishing* the People of God, and the like, are not these carnal Weapons? Indeed you may make Hypocrites to conform to you; but the Birth born of the Spirit will never joyn to that persecuting Birth, born of the Flesh: For the Birth of the Flesh hath its fleshly carnal Weapons, Whips, Gallows, Goals, and cast's Christ in Prison, where he is man fest and spoils the Goods of the Righteous: But the Birth born of the Spi-

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rit hath spiritual Weapons and Armour, and visits Christ in Prison, where he is manifest, and their Weapons are not carnal, but spiritual. And alack, poor blind People! can you stop the Sun from shining, & the Rain from falling, & the Spring of all Herbs, Trees and Plants from budding forth? then you may stop God's heavenly Sun of Righteousness from shining, and his heavenly Rain from falling upon the Plants, and his heavenly Trees and Plants from budding, and bringing forth Fruit, to the Praise and Glory of the great God, who created all to his Glory.

I saw this Law of yours for the preventing and reforming the provoking Evils of the *Quakers* Meetings, as you call it, which Law of yours bears Date the 3d of *November*, 1675. And I also saw an account how the *Indians* had killed the 19th day of the 10th month next following four of your Captains and 114 men, and wounded four more of your Capatins and 121, more of your Souldiers, which mischief you fell into soon after this your Law against the People of God called *Quakers* was made. Now if this be true, take heed and consider lest the Lord give you blood to Drink, and that which you have given to his Children, which my desire is that it may not come upon you but that you may repent and come to have forgiveness from God for all your Murder whippings, Banishings, Imprisonings and spoiling Goods and your false charges and hard words, that you have done and spoken against his Children and People. And have you (*New-England* men) fulfiled this Scripture, *Love thy Neighbour as thy self, and do unto all men as you would have them do unto you.*

Read and consider these Scriptures, and examine your selves by them, if they point not out your present State and Condition, *For your Hands are defiled with Blood, and your Fingers with Iniquity; your Lips have spoken Lyes, your Tongues have uttered Perversness,* Isa. 59. 3. *I will feed them that oppress thee with their own Flesh, & they shall be drunk with their own Blood,* Isa. 49. 26. *Also in thy Skirts is found the blood of the Souls of the poor Innocents, &c. behold I will plead with thee, because thou sayest I have not sinned,* Jer. 2. 34, 35. *The bloodthirsty hates the Upright,* prov. 29. 10. *The words of the Wicked are to lye in wait for Blood, but the Mouth of the upright shall deliver them,* prov. 12. 6.

G. F.

THE END.